

REMARKS

I. RESTRICTION ELECTION

The applicant acknowledges that claim 8, 18, 22-29, 32, and 50-56 were previously withdrawn. The claims are now cancelled.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 4,660,397 to Gerimont. Claims 11-17, 21, and 44-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by WIPO 01/48339 to Jacob. Claims 11-17, 19-21, 30, 31, 37-42, 44-49, and 57-60 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 2,822,684 to Ray.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11-17, 19-21, 30, 31, 37-42, 44-49, and 57-60 have been canceled.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 103

Claims 10 and 43 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over combinations of Girimont in view of US Application 2004/0148988 to Taylor or Ray in view of Taylor.

Claims 10 and 43 have been canceled.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The examiner indicates that claims 3, 4, 7, 9, and 33-36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

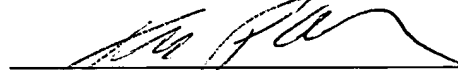
Claims 3, 7, 9 and 33 have been rewritten to independent form to include all limitations of the base claim and an intervening claims. Claims 4, and 34-36 dependent form one of claims 3 or 33 and therefore now include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Accordingly, claims 3, 4, 7, 9, and 33-36 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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